

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, June 25, 2020

**TIME:** 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Maryland Department of Health

Due to COVID-19, this meeting will be held through WebEx-teleconference only.

**To Join by WebEx:**

<https://mdhealth.webex.com/mdhealth/k2/j.php?MTID=tf03d7ad9f8a39c9de34d1634ae010d>

Session number: 161 313 4914

Session password: vcQNJFjx692

**To Join by Phone:**

US Toll:+1-415-655-0001

Access code: 161 313 4914

Those who would like to make public comment should email Edward Miller at, [EdwardJ.Miller@maryland.gov](mailto:EdwardJ.Miller@maryland.gov) or use the WebEx chat feature to submit questions to the host.

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**AGENDA**

- I. Departmental Report
- II. COVID-19 Updates
- III. HealthChoice Evaluation – (Laura Goodman)
- IV. Waiver, State Plan and Regulations Changes
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Adjournment

**Date and Location of Next Meeting:  
Thursday, July 23, 2020, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Staff Contact: Mr. Edward J. Miller - (410) 767-0247**

**[EdwardJ.Miller@maryland.gov](mailto:EdwardJ.Miller@maryland.gov)**

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**May 28, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Jessica Dickerson  
Ms. Shannon Hall  
Ms. Vickie Walters  
Ms. Linda Dietsch  
Ms. Maansi Raswant  
Rachel Dodge, M.D.  
Winifred Booker, D.D.S  
Adeteju Ogunrinde, M.D  
The Hon. Joseline Peña-Melnyk  
Mr. Kenneth Garove  
Ms. Marie McLendon  
Mr. Ben Steffen  
Ms. Isabella Firth  
Ms. Anna Sierra  
Ms. Nicole McCann  
Mr. William Webb

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

The Hon. Antonio Hayes  
Mr. Floyd Hartley  
Ms. Robin Moore  
The Hon. Matthew Morgan  
Mr. Vincent DeMarco  
Kathryn Fiddler, DNP  
The Hon. Pat Young

## **Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee**

**May 28, 2020**

### **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Vickie Walters, Chair, called to order the meeting of the Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee (MMAC) at 1:05 p.m. Committee members approved the minutes from the April 23, 2020 meeting as written.

### **Departmental Report**

Ms. Tricia Roddy, Director, Office of Innovation, Research and Development, reported that the Department has been tracking Medicaid enrollment on a weekly basis since February and shared graphics to show how enrollment is changing (see attached charts). Enrollment numbers show that about 18,000 people have joined Medicaid since the end of February.

Health and Human Services (HHS) did extend the federal public health state of emergency effective April 26, 2020 to last for another 90 days. If HHS does not end the State of Emergency earlier than the 90-day extension, Medicaid can expect the enhanced 6.2 percentage point increase in the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) rate through September 30, 2020. The FMAP increase is based on fiscal quarters so as long as the FMAP extends within a fiscal quarter, the state will receive the enhance FMAP for the entire quarter.

Providers are receiving federal money distributed through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Provider Relief funds. HHS has asked states to gather data on Medicaid providers. We were asked to share data for CYs 2017 and 2018 on the amount each provider received from Medicaid. HHS will use these data to target remaining CARES monies to Medicaid providers. Funds are not distributed through the Department. Providers receive money directly from the federal government. The Department is monitoring how the federal government distributes these funds. For instance, it was just announced that Maryland nursing homes are receiving \$75 million from the CARES Act.

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) announces that the state revenues for fiscal year (FY) 2020 were a \$1 billion short. DBM is looking at the budget for FY 2021 to determine what, if any, cost containment initiatives need to be implemented. Any cost containment for Medicaid needs to consider the federal Maintenance of Effort requirement. In exchange for the enhanced FMAP rate, states cannot disenroll individuals from the Medicaid program or impose new eligibility restrictions. This includes increasing and collecting premiums.

The Department continues to monitor the State of Emergency as we begin to reopen. The 1135 Waiver and Disaster State Plans are tied to federal emergency timeframes. When the federal government ends the federal emergency, we will transition back to normal rules. The Appendix K will continue throughout the year even if the federal state of emergency ends earlier.

### **Health Benefit Exchange Update on Qualified Health Plan Special Enrollment**

Ms. Heather Forsyth, Director, Consumer Assistance, Eligibility Policy and Business Integration, Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, gave the Committee highlights of the special enrollment period implemented by the Maryland Health Benefits Exchange (see attached presentation).

### **Health Information Exchange COVID-19 Response Efforts**

Mr. Craig Behm, Maryland Executive Director, CRISP Health, gave the Committee an overview of CRISP Health, their principles, who they serve, and their role in the state's COVID-19 response (see attached presentation). CRISP's work with COVID-19 in Maryland is unique from what Health Information Exchange's (HIE) are doing to assist in other states. CRISP responded right away and got their system set up to do what the Department asked them to do and continues to do as things change during the pandemic.

### **Vaccinations during COVID-19**

Cheryl DePinto, MD, Director, Office of Population Health Improvement, addressed the decrease in vaccinations since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as current recommendations (see attached presentation).

### **Waiver, State Plan and Regulation Changes**

Ms. Molly Marra, Director, Medicaid Provider Services, gave the Committee a status update on waivers, regulations and state plan amendment changes.

**Regulations** – There were several pending final actions all with a final print date in the Maryland Register of May 8, 2020 and an effective date of May 18, 2020.

**State Plan Amendments** (SPAs) – The disaster relief SPA on Family Planning is pending.

**Waivers** – No updates.

### **Public Comments**

Ms. Robyn Elliott, Public Policy Partners gave public comments on their request for federal funding for dental access and services for Medicaid recipients.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Walters adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.